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Records: Tafoya said CIA paid for 'rough up'

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FORT COLLINS — Former Green Beret Eugene Aloys Tafoya told an investigator here that a CIA agent paid him \$8,000 in London after he followed orders to "rough up" a Libyan student at Colorado State University in 1980, court documents revealed Tuesday.

Tafoya told Detective Ray Martinez that the "roughing up" of Faisal Zagallai "got out of hand" — ending in the shooting of Zagallai in self-defense.

The interview, conducted last May, was disclosed during a day when several revelations and rulings were made in Tafoya's

'Hit list' reportedly found in ex-Beret's home

case. Tafoya's trial on charges that he attempted to murder Zagallai is scheduled to begin this week in Fort Collins District Court.

Zagallai recovered from two .22-caliber gunshot wounds in the head, but he lost vision in one eye.

Among revelations Tuesday, prosecutors said they had discovered the identity of the alleged "middleman" who Tafoya has said recruited him to work for former CIA operative Edwin P. Wilson and who may have directed him on secret missions. Wilson has been indicted on charges of smuggling arms to Libyan leader Col. Moammar Khadafy.

Before Tuesday, the man was known only as "Jim" — a name heard on a tape recording made by Tafoya. Prosecutors said Jim is James Clinton Dean, reportedly a former Green Beret working for Wilson.

Also revealed Tuesday were additional details about an alleged "hit list" found in a search of Tafoya's house in Truth or Consequences, N.M., in April.

Prosecutors said the list contained names, addresses and habits of several people, including at least one Libyan. All the people had had "a falling out with Edwin P. Wilson," according to Deputy District Attorney Loren Schall.

The prosecution has been trying to build a case of international conspiracy around Tafoya. They hope to show that Tafoya took orders in the past to carry out illegal missions for Wilson and that the Zagallai shooting was part of the conspiracy.

The prosecution's plans to introduce the international connection were dealt a setback Tuesday by Fort Collins District Judge J. Robert Miller. Miller ruled that several pieces of evidence, including Tafoya's conversation with Martinez, couldn't be presented to the Tafoya jury.

On Wednesday Miller is expected to rule on a change of venue motion filed Tuesday by defense attorneys.